

10/23/01

To: CINMS Advisory Council

From: Linda Krop, Conservation Representative

Re: Conservation Working Group Report, 10/23/01

The Conservation Working Group (CWG) met on October 22, 2001. Members present: Linda Krop, Environmental Defense Center, Chair; Greg Helms, The Ocean Conservancy, Co-Chair; Jean Holmes, League of Women Voters; Mike McGinnis; Drew Bohan, Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper; Dan Pearson, Pt. Mugu Wildlife Center.

1. Marine Reserves

The group discussed the status of the CA Fish and Game Commission's consideration of a network of marine reserves in state waters surrounding the Channel Islands. Greg Helms brought everyone up to date regarding the Commission process. The CWG reiterated its support for marine reserves and encouraged groups and individuals to write letters of support to the Commission. The CWG supported the SAC's action last week, urging the Commission to consider a range of options that reflects the input from the MRWG process.

2. Management Plan

The group was informed that a new NOAA Administrator has been nominated and therefore we expect that the Draft Management Plan and EIS will be released by the end of the year. Linda reminded the group of the range of issues that will be addressed in the Management Plan Update (e.g., boundary expansion, programs, and regulations) and encouraged groups and the public to stay involved in the process.

3. SAC Open Seats

Linda informed those present about the openings on the SAC and encouraged interested persons to apply.

4. Next SAC, CWG Meetings

Linda announced that the next SAC meeting is Nov. 14. A CWG meeting was scheduled for November 20; location to be announced.